

Message Text

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R 140649Z PEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AFSP, FR, BE, TECH, AODE

SUBJECT: MODE - NRC REQUEST TO ESTABLISH REGIONAL OFFICE

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1. THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) HAS SUBMITTED A REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A POSITION FOR ONE OFFICER (WITH A PART-TIME AMERICAN SECRETARY) ATTACHED TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN PARIS. THE OFFICER WOULD HAVE REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES PRIMARILY IN EUROPE BUT ALSO IN THE NEAR EAST AND PERHAPS AFRICA.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY NRC IS AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE. THE MISSION OF THIS OFFICE WOULD BE TO REPRESENT NRC IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL AND INDUSTRIAL NUCLEAR ENERGY ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE, AND TO REPORT ON THESE ACTIVITIES
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TO NRC, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND OTHER INTERESTED U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

THE COMMISSION ALSO DESIRES THAT THIS NRC REPRESENTATIVE IN PARTICULAR CAN, FROM TIME TO TIME, MAKE APPROPRIATE CONTACTS WITH EURATOM AND OTHER OFFICIALS IN BRUSSELS, AND WILL APPRECIATE OFFICE OF U.S. REP TO THE EC FACILITATING.
END QUOTE.

3. PROPOSED TITLE OF POSITION IS NRC REPRESENTATIVE. FRENCH OFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS TO BE CONTACTED INCLUDE: MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH, CENTRAL SERVICE FOR NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS SAFETY, CEA, DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY. OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BE OECD-NEA, IEA, AND EC/EURATOM. NRC EXPECTS GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO WELCOME NRC REPRESENTATION.

4. VISITS TO OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRIES, PRIMARILY AS REQUESTED BY NRC/WASHINGTON ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, WOULD BE COORDINATED IN ADVANCE WITH THE CONCERNED U.S. DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WHICH WOULD BE KEPT CURRENTLY INFORMED OF HIS ACTIVITIES IN THEIR AREA OF JURISDICTION.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POSITION WOULD INVOLVE MAINTAINING LIAISON WITH THE TECHNICAL WORKING LEVELS OF APPROPRIATE MINISTRIES, INDUSTRIES, OR INSTITUTIONS IN FRANCE, THE EC COMMISSION, AND OTHER COUNTRIES VISITED. THIS WOULD GENERALLY BE LIMITED TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF NUCLEAR SAFETY AND RELATED REGULATORY INFORMATION INCLUDING DISCUSSIONS, AS INSTRUCTED, ON EXPORT AND IMPORT LICENSING MATTERS. RESPONSIBILITIES WOULD NOT EXTEND TO QUESTIONS INVOLVING SPECIFIC NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUES, EXCEPT ON THE BASIS OF INSTRUCTIONS CLEARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

6. FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT WOULD BE EXPECTED: COMMUNICATIONS (PARTICULARLY TELEGRAM, TELEX, MAIL, TELEPHONE, ETC.), OFFICE SPACE, OFFICE FURNITURE (IF AVAILABLE), OFFICE MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING, OFFICE SUPPLIES OTHER THAN LETTERHEAD STATIONERY, MOTOR POOL, TRAVEL
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SERVICES, LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION (REIMBURSED), LOCAL HIRE HELP (REIMBURSED), AND DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT.

7. NRC REPRESENTATIVE AND HIS PART-TIME CLERICAL ASSISTANT WOULD BE PAYROLLED BY THE NRC FROM WASHINGTON. NRC REPRESENTATIVE WOULD USE STATE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION FACILITIES FOR ALL OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION WITH NRC HEAD-

QUARTERS IN WASHINGTON.

8. IN WASHINGTON WE ESTIMATE NON-SALARY COSTS FOR OPERATING THIS POSITION FOR A SENIOR GS OFFICER WITH THREE SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN AT 39,925 DOLLARS (HOUSING 10,900 DOLLARS, EDUCATION ALLOWANCE 10,500 DOLLARS, POST AND COL ALLOWANCE 4,525 DOLLARS, SAS 14,000 DOLLARS). ADDITIONALLY, NRC PLANS ON A REGIONAL TRAVEL BUDGET OF 3,500 DOLLARS, AND SALARY FOR A PART-TIME SECRETARY WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 5,500 DOLLARS. WE HAVE RAISED WITH NRC THE

POSSIBILITY OF COVERING THE REQUIREMENTS WITH THE OFFICER BASED IN WASHINGTON. NRC BELIEVES THEIR REPRESENTATIONAL, INFORMATION-EXCHANGE, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS COULD NOT BE ADEQUATELY MET IN THIS MANNER. POST RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS POINT ARE INVITED. (FYI. COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF USG OVERSEAS REGIONAL OFFICES IS NOW IN PROGRESS WITH OBJECTIVE OF KEEPING SUCH STAFFS TO MINIMUM ESSENTIAL TO ACCOMPLISH US OBJECTIVES. END FYI.)

9. SHOULD ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION AT PARIS BE APPROVED, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES NRC REPRESENTATIVE OUGHT TO BE ATTACHED TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNSELOR FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL AFFAIRS AND BE SUBJECT TO HIS POLICY SUPERVISION AND DIRECTION. HE WOULD BE EXPECTED TO WORK IN FULL COOPERATION WITH THE COUNSELOR AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC MISSION. WHILE THE NRC WOULD NORMALLY HAVE FIRST CLAIM ON HIS TIME, HE SHOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST WHERE APPROPRIATE IN CARRYING OUT DIPLOMATIC AND REPORTING FUNCTIONS RELATING TO THE NRC MISSION. BEING FULLY INTEGRATED INTO THE EMBASSY OPERATIONS WOULD ASSURE HIM THE BENEFIT OF AN OVERVIEW OF RELATED BROAD POLICY ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS.

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10. FOR INFO OF ADDRESSEES, ERDA HAS BEEN DISCUSSING WITH DEPARTMENT THE POSSIBILITY OF PROPOSING THE STATIONING OF ONE OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES AT THE EMBASSY IN PARIS. NO FORMAL PROPOSAL HAS BEEN SUBMITTED YET, BUT THIS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS TO BE KEPT IN MIND AS WE ASSESS NRC REQUEST. THE ROLES OF THE REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT, HOWEVER, REFLECTING THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES IN THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TWO AGENCIES.

11. WOULD APPRECIATE REACTION BY ADDRESSEE COMS TO THIS PROPOSAL, INCLUDING COMMENTS PER PARA 8 AND ANY ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CAPABILITIES. BELIEVE SCIENCE ATTACHE WILLIAM SALMON IS KNOWLEDGEABLE OF NRC REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS. INGERSOLL

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